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## Architecture Practices for Complex Contexts

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2017

### **document version**

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

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### **citation for published version (APA)**

Klein, J. R. (2017). *Architecture Practices for Complex Contexts*. [PhD-Thesis - Research and graduation internal, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam].

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Het gebied van de *Architectuurontwerp*-praktijk wordt behandeld met een kennismodel waarin een brug wordt geslagen tussen abstracte architectuur-analyse op basis van kwaliteitsattributen, patronen en tactieken, en concrete kenmerken van specifieke technologieën in een specifiek domein (in dit geval NoSQL data-opslag). Gebaseerd op dit kennismodel werd een prototype voor een beslis-ondersteunend systeem ontwikkeld en geëvalueerd.

Op het gebied van de *Architectuurdocumentatie*-praktijk wordt een documentatie-gezichtspunt gedefinieerd. Het gezichtspunt specificeert en organiseert de informatie die een SoS-architect nodig heeft over een deelsysteem dat onderdeel wordt van een SoS. Het gezichtspunt wordt op compleetheid getoetst.

Op het gebied van de *Architectuurevaluatie*-praktijk tenslotte wordt in dit proefschrift een prototype geïntroduceerd van een referentie-architectuur die een modelgedreven constructie-aanpak gebruikt voor de runtime observeerbaarheid van een grootschalig SoS systeem met honderden of duizenden nodes. In de referentiearchitectuur wordt modelgedreven constructie (*model-driven engineering*) gecombineerd met modelleren op basis van architectuurstijlen. Modelgedreven constructie zorgt voor de automatisering die nodig is voor systemen van deze schaal, en door het toepassen van architectuurstijlen wordt kennis over metriecken en kwaliteit hergebruikt.

Geen enkele praktijk is intrinsiek goed of slecht. Als software-engineers is het onze taak om een praktijk te kiezen of creëren die past bij de ontwerp-context. De bijdrage van dit proefschrift is een leidraad hiervoor in de SoS-context.

## 10.2 English Summary

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The architecture of a system of systems (SoS) is created by composing systems, with each constituent system retaining independent authority over its operation and evolution. These SoS are increasingly prevalent in practice, for example, as we integrate devices in the Internet of Things (IoT) and as we build data-intensive systems to harness the information produced by disparate sources. In this SoS context, the forces produced by the independent systems cause long-held architecture practices to be ineffective, and different practices are needed. For example, rather than the traditional practice of choosing technologies to satisfy our architecture drivers, SoS architects make selections early in the design cycle and then build their architecture around

those selections. Managerial independence restricts stakeholder collaboration, limiting the effectiveness of traditional architecture documentation practices. Finally, the runtime environment of the SoS is ever-evolving, and so architecture evaluation practices must extend from design time to include approaches like runtime monitoring.

This dissertation presents three replacements for traditional architecture practices, addressing the practice areas of *Architecture Design*, *Architecture Documentation*, and *Architecture Evaluation*. Each of these replacement practices is sensitive to the forces created by the independence of the constituent systems in an SoS.

The *Architecture Design* practice area was addressed with a knowledge model that bridges between abstract architecture reasoning based on quality attributes, patterns, and tactics, and concrete features of specific technologies in a particular domain (in this case, NoSQL data storage). A prototype decision support tool based on this knowledge model was developed and evaluated.

In the *Architecture Documentation* practice area, an architecture documentation viewpoint was defined. The viewpoint specifies and organizes the information that an SoS architect needs about a constituent system that will be introduced into an SoS. The viewpoint was evaluated for completeness.

Finally, in the *Architecture Evaluation* practice area, this dissertation introduces and evaluates a prototype of a reference architecture that uses a model-driven engineering approach for runtime observability of a large scale SoS with 100s or 1000s of nodes. The reference architecture combines model-driven engineering with architecture style modeling. Model-driven engineering provides the automation needed for systems of this scale, and architecture styles provide reuse of architecture knowledge about metrics and qualities.

No practice is intrinsically good or bad. As a software engineer, our task is to choose or create a practice that is fit for use, given our design context. The contribution of this dissertation is the guidance for doing this in the SoS context.